



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/645,459	08/20/2003	Manish Rathi	2717P100	8009
8791	7590	07/24/2008	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP			GERGISO, TECHANE	
1279 OAKMEAD PARKWAY				
SUNNYVALE, CA 94085-4040			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2137	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			07/24/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/645,459	RATHI ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	TECHANE J. GERICHO	2137	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 June 2008.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 26-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 26-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>06/20/2008</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on June 20, 208 has been entered.
2. The applicant canceled claims 1-25 and added new claims 26-44.
3. Claims 26-44 have been examined and are pending.

Claim Objections

4. Claim 40 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 40 recite "The computer readable medium of claim 40"; however, claim 40 is rather directed to a system. Appropriate correction is required.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 26-44 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claims 26-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mukherjee et al. (hereinafter referred to as Mukherjee, US Pub. No.: 2004/0006708 A1) in view of Cheline et al. (hereinafter referred to as Cheline, US Pub No.: 2003/0041136 A1).

As per claim 26:

Mukherjee discloses a method in a packet forwarder, comprising:
receiving a connection request from a computing device requesting access to a network (0050;
Figure 4A: 404);
issuing the computing device a first Internet Protocol (IP) address assigned to a first Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) communicably interfaced with the packet forwarder,
wherein the first VLAN does not provide access to the network and is isolated from a permanent VLAN that provides access to the network (Figure 2: 108; 0006; 0026; 0030;
0034);
sending the computing device an authentication request via the first VLAN based on the first IP address, responsive to the connection request (0025; 0051; 0067);
receiving authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request (0025; 0051; 0067); and

forwarding network packets between the computing device and the network over the permanent VLAN based on the replacement IP address (0053; 0067).

Mukherjee does not explicitly disclose issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. Cheline, in analogous art however, disclose issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device (0051; 0055; 0056; 0068; 0071). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Mukherjee to include issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated by the desire to provide a computer implemented method for remotely configuring a Virtual Private Network (VPN) between a client-side system and a server-side system as suggested by Cheline (as suggested 0016).

As per claim 27:

Mukherjee disclose a method, wherein receiving the connection request from the computing device requesting access to the network comprises: intercepting a request from the computing device for a web page (figure 5: IPSG router and VISA device).

As per claim 28:

Cheline disclose a method, wherein sending the computing device the authentication request comprises: directing the computing device to a network login page for authentication, the network login page accessible on the first VLAN (figure 3B: 328, 331, 332).

As per claim 29:

Cheline disclose a method, wherein receiving the authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request comprises: receiving at least a user name and a password from the computing device based on information captured by the network login page (figure 3B: 328, 331, 332; 334).

As per claim 30:

Cheline disclose a method, wherein directing the computing device to the network login page for authentication comprises: responding to the computing device with a redirect to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address for the network login page (0057).

As per claim 31:

Mukherjee disclose a method, further comprising: sending the authentication credentials to an authentication server; and receiving an indication from the authentication server that the authentication credentials are authentic and that a user associated with the authentication credentials is authorized to access the network (figure 4a: 408-418; 0025; 0039; 0051).

As per claim 32:

Cheline disclose a method, wherein sending the authentication credentials to the authentication server comprises: creating a packet comprising the authentication credentials in accordance with a Remote Authentication Dial-In User Service (RADIUS) communications protocol; and forwarding the packet to a RADIUS server for authentication (0043; 0044).

As per claim 33:

Mukherjee disclose a method, wherein the packet forwarder comprises a switch device located at an edge of the network to provide packet-forwarding services into the network (figure 1: 102).

As per claim 34:

Mukherjee disclose a method, further comprising:
terminating forwarding of the network packets between the computing device and the network based on one or more events including (0035; 0052; 0064);
exceeding a pre-determined period of inactivity by the computing device (0035; 0052; 0064);
receiving a reset signal is from a network login controller communicably interfaced with the packet forwarder (0035; 0052; 0064);
receiving a termination command from an administrator account requesting forwarding of the network packets between the computing device and the network be terminated;

determining a network connection between the computing device and the packet forwarder is disconnected (0035; 0052; 0064); and

determining a user of the computing device has logged off of the computing device(0035; 0052; 0064).

As per claim 35:

Mukherjee disclose a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:
receiving a connection request at a packet forwarder from a computing device requesting access to a network (0050; Figure 4A: 404);
issuing the computing device a first Internet Protocol (IP) address assigned to a first Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) communicably interfaced with the packet forwarder, wherein the first VLAN does not provide access to the network and is isolated from a permanent VLAN that provides access to the network (Figure 2: 108; 0006; 0026; 0030; 0034);
sending the computing device an authentication request via the first VLAN based on the first IP address, responsive to the connection request (0025; 0051; 0067);
receiving authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request (0053; 0067); and
forwarding network packets between the computing device and the network over the permanent VLAN based on the replacement IP address (0025; 0051; 0067).

Mukherjee does not explicitly disclose issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. Cheline, in analogous art however, disclose issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device (0051; 0055; 0056; 0068; 0071). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Mukherjee to include issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated by the desire to provide a computer implemented method for remotely configuring a Virtual Private Network (VPN) between a client-side system and a server-side system as suggested by Cheline (as suggested 0016).

As per claim 36:

Mukherjee disclose a computer-readable medium, wherein receiving the connection request from the computing device requesting access to the network comprises: intercepting a request from the computing device for a web page (figure 5: IPSG router and VISA device).

As per claim 37:

Cheline disclose a computer-readable medium, wherein: sending the computing device the authentication request comprises directing the computing device to a network login page for authentication, the network login page accessible on the first VLAN; and wherein receiving the authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request comprises receiving user identification data from the computing device based on information captured by the network login page (figure 3B: 328, 331, 332, 334).

As per claim 38:

Cheline disclose a computer-readable medium, wherein directing the computing device to the network login page for authentication comprises: responding to the computing device with a redirect to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address for the network login page (0057).

As per claim 39:

Cheline disclose a computer-readable medium, further comprising: sending the authentication credentials to a Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS) compatible authentication server; and receiving an indication from the RADIUS compatible authentication server that the authentication credentials are authentic and that a user associated with the authentication credentials is authorized to access the network (0043; 0044).

As per claim 40:

Mukherjee disclose a system comprising:

means for receiving a connection request at a packet forwarder from a computing device requesting access to a network (0050; Figure 4A: 404);
means for issuing the computing device a first Internet Protocol (IP) address assigned to a first Virtual Local Area Network (VLAN) communicably interfaced with the packet forwarder, wherein the first VLAN does not provide access to the network and is isolated from a permanent VLAN that provides access to the network (Figure 2: 108; 0006; 0026; 0030; 0034);
means for sending the computing device an authentication request via the first VLAN based on the first IP address, responsive to the connection request (0025; 0051; 0067);
means for receiving authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request (0053; 0067);
means for forwarding network packets between the computing device and the network over the permanent VLAN based on the replacement IP address (0025; 0051; 0067).

Mukherjee does not explicitly disclose means for issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. Cheline, in analogous art however, disclose means for issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device (0051;

0055; 0056; 0068; 0071). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method disclosed by Mukherjee to include means for issuing the computing device a replacement IP address assigned to the permanent VLAN for communication with the network, responsive to receiving satisfactory authentication credentials from the computing device. This modification would have been obvious because a person having ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated by the desire to provide a computer implemented method for remotely configuring a Virtual Private Network (VPN) between a client-side system and a server-side system as suggested by Cheline (as suggested 0016).

As per claim 41:

Mukherjee disclose a computer-readable medium, wherein receiving the connection request from the computing device requesting access to the network comprises: means for intercepting a request from the computing device for a web page (figure 5: IPSG router and VISA device).

As per claim 42:

Cheline disclose a system, wherein: sending the computing device the authentication request comprises means for directing the computing device to a network login page for authentication, the network login page accessible on the first VLAN; and wherein receiving the authentication credentials from the computing device via the first VLAN, responsive to the authentication request comprises means for receiving a user identification card from the

computing device based on information captured by the network login page (figure 3B: 328, 331, 332, 334).

As per claim 43:

Cheline disclose a system, wherein directing the computing device to the network login page for authentication comprises: means for responding to the computing device with a redirect to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) address for the network login page (0057).

As per claim 44:

Cheline disclose a system, further comprising: means for sending the authentication credentials to a Remote Authentication Dial In User Service (RADIUS) compatible authentication server; and means for receiving an indication from the RADIUS compatible authentication server that the authentication credentials are authentic and that a user associated with the authentication credentials is authorized to access the network (0043; 0044).

Conclusion

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See the notice of reference cited in form PTO-892 for additional prior art.

Contact Information

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Techane J. Gergiso whose telephone number is (571) 272-3784

and fax number is (571) 273-3784. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:00am - 6:00pm. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Emmanuel Moise can be reached on (571) 272-3865. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/T. J. G./

Examiner, Art Unit 2137

/Emmanuel L. Moise/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2137